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Oifig Ceann na n-Oibríochtaí, Cúraim Phríomhúil, Oibríochtaí Pobail  
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29<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Deputy Dara Calleary,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 24257/21 - To ask the Minister for Health if there are plans to provide financial assistance to persons requiring the use of oxygen machines currently costing approximately €1 per day; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**- Dara Calleary**

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Dear Deputy Calleary,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 24257/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I wish to advise that in line with the eligibility as set out in the Health Act 1970, GMS card holders are determined to have full eligibility and are provided with any required oxygen machines such as concentrators, BiPap machines and oxygen. Apart from the initial provision they are fully supported in terms of the maintenance and replacement of these pieces of equipment and associated supplies.

Non-GMS card holders have to make their own private arrangements for the provision and maintenance of this type of equipment. When their expenditure on these and other prescribed medications exceed a defined threshold (presently €114 per calendar month) they can seek reimbursement of the additional costs through the Drug Repayment scheme.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Maeve Raeside'.

**Maeve Raeside**  
General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations